

MEDIA FAIRNESS INITIATIVE: NETWORKS ENGAGE IN LABEL- ING BIAS

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, sometimes the worst examples of unfair news coverage are what reporters choose not to say. For example, while the media often label Governor Sarah Palin "conservative," they seldom call Senator BARACK OBAMA or Senator JOE BIDEN "liberal," despite the fact that the National Journal ranks Senator OBAMA as the most liberal member of the Senate, and Senator BIDEN as the third most liberal member of the Senate.

A comparison of television network news programs immediately after each vice presidential selection shows that newscasters continually referred to Governor Sarah Palin as "conservative," but did not one time, not a single time, label Senator JOE BIDEN as "liberal."

The American people should encourage the media to apply the same rules to both Presidential tickets. Only then can we restore Americans' faith in news reporting.

REPUBLICAN ENERGY POLICY

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, Republicans say they favor an all-of-the-above solution to our Nation's energy crisis. Yet their record from the past 8 years tells us something different.

Republicans have consistently voted against critical solutions that should be a part of a comprehensive energy package. For instance, they voted against important tax provisions needed for renewable energy and energy efficiency industries. They voted against responsible drilling. They voted against efforts to protect consumers from speculators who manipulate our markets. They voted against measures to bring down oil prices. And lastly, they voted against American workers by not supporting green collar jobs.

These votes and others show the true Grand Oil Party whose primary goal is to protect the record profits of big oil companies. If my colleagues are really serious about supporting an all-of-the-above energy proposal, then they should join Democrats and support a sensible and comprehensive energy package.

RECOGNIZING MOSAIC

(Mr. TERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize all the good people

at Mosaic who have come to Washington, D.C. to take part in the ANCOR 2008 Governmental Activities Seminar. Throughout this week, people from Mosaic, along with all of the attendees from ANCOR events, are meeting with their congressional offices to raise awareness about the need for an adequately paid, trained and dedicated workforce.

Low wages have been a prime obstacle in maintaining a qualified workforce. Unlike the other sectors of the private market, the formal long-term support system is almost entirely dependent upon public financing, particularly Medicaid funding.

Madam Speaker, there is no better way to recognize this workforce's contribution to the Nation than to ensure that these folks who are dedicated direct support professionals are fairly compensated. I urge my colleagues to join with me and Lois Capps in cosponsoring the bipartisan Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act, H.R. 1279.

HONORING SISTER EILEEN MCNERNEY

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Eileen McNerney, executive director of Taller San Jose in Santa Ana, California on the occasion of her retirement at the end of this month.

Sister McNerney first arrived to the great city of Santa Ana in 1992, and she has made a significant contribution to bettering the lives of the Santa Ana youth through the workshop that she founded over 12 years ago, a workshop called Taller San Jose.

Students at Taller San Jose learn to leave behind the violence of gangs, the harm of drugs and alcohol and the trauma of becoming a teen parent by training for a career in construction, computers and yes, even medicine.

Taller San Jose, or Workshop San Jose, is a highly respected and recognized trade school within the city of Santa Ana, and it has received many domestic and international grants, awards and recognition.

Sister McNerney's dedication to the youth of Santa Ana continues in her retirement, as she is encouraging Taller San Jose to find someone new, new leadership to infuse that leadership into that group.

She is an extraordinary example of community leadership. She is a friend, and I thank her for her years of service to our community.

COMMENDING FAYETTEVILLE'S FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOR 160 YEARS OF SERVICE

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Fayetteville's First Christian Church on its 160th anniversary. This great country was founded on religious principles and the ideals of our Founders and can be seen in the works and service that is carried out every day by this church.

First Christian welcomes people from all walks of life with open arms, and its commitment to not only teaching but showing the love of God is something that we can all be very proud of.

I honor First Christian Church and its members for the dedication and commitment of their faith and their strength in service to the kingdom of God. The church is truly doing the work of the Lord and is reaching out to help people in need. It is an integral part of the community, and its members have played an important role in shaping northwest Arkansas.

I'm grateful for the efforts of all church members who serve as stewards of Jesus Christ. It is through their commitment to God that the legacy of First Christian Church lives on.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, 7 years ago our Nation was struck. And as we reflect on that infamous day, as a representative of North Jersey, many of the victims came from our State. We responded with our firefighters and first responders who immediately went over to New York through the tunnel, by boat, to assist our brothers and sisters there.

I want to say a special word about one of my constituents, Wanda Green, who was a flight attendant on Flight 93 that left my district, my town of Newark, New Jersey and, as you know, was on its way to the Capitol and was brought down by heroic persons on board that plane.

Wanda Green was a flight attendant who switched with another attendant who asked her to take her flight because she had to do something, and Wanda said, all right.

I visited her two college-age children at that time, and we talked about how courageous she was and that they had to live on and move on in her spirit.

And so we are here to express and reflect on that day. To all the families who were impacted, you have our deep condolences.

ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE ENERGY STRATEGY

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I'm pretty happy today. The rumors coming out of the majority bring hope that